

IMPASSABLE

Impassable #46, February 8, 1975

Chapel Hill Publications

Circulation: 134+

Impassable is a journal of postal Diplomacy published and edited by John Boyer, 117 Garland Drive, Carlisle, PA 17013. Phone: (717) 249-1343, between 9 and 10:30 p.m., E.S.T., on weeknights except Mondays. Sub to Impassable is 12/\$2.00. A shorter sub is available for newbloods at 6/\$1. This is a tri-weekly gamezine, a subsidiary of Chapel Hill Publications founded in March of 1972.

Diplomacy is a registered Trademark of a game invented by Allan B. Calhamer and copyright by Games Research, Inc., 500 Harrison Ave., Boston, MA 02118.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

News of the Diplomacy Hobby.....	1
Solitary Confinement, Chapter 4.....	2
Experienced Game #3, 1973Ddl.....	3
1970BJ, 1972BG, 1972BW.....	4
1973BU, 1974HN, 1974HY.....	5
1975G.....	6
Dippworld, Chapter 4.....	7
Getting to Know your Allies and Enemies...	9
Supplement: North American Diplomacy	
Players Poll #2.....	11-12
((Just noticed I typed one too many page, so I took out my own article on the dippy hobby!))	

OPENINGS IN DIPLOMACY IN IMPASSABLE

There are only two games left to fill. The 9th Newblood Game has 6 players, needs one. And, the 10th Newblood Game needs 7 players! Gamefee is 7.00 basic. If you want all issues covering your game even if you're stabbed, trampled upon, spitted upon, thrown into a deep grave, and forgotten by all of your neighbors, etc. and have not or will not drop out of the game.....then you can pay the princely sum of \$8.00. The \$7.00 will cover only while you're in the game. Some can't stand the facts of being out of a game, so this is only for those who might want revenge or can stand their own deaths..... Not recommended for the weak-hearted or those short of breath or without natural defenses.

NEWS OF THE DIPLOMACY HOBBY

The 1974 IDA Election results have come out in the organization's publication, Diplomacy Review. Therefore, I feel free to print the results although I suspect many of the readers know them anyhow:

PRESIDENT: Edi Birsan
OMBUDSMAN: Walker
EDITOR: Neiger*
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: Boymel*
ATLANTIC: Boyer
CENTRAL: Pulsipher
PACIFIC: Hubbard
AT-LARGE: Brooks and Kelly
CANADA: Correll
ENGLAND: Patterson*

Those with astericks presented less than clear cut cases. Neiger and Boymel's qualifications were contested and Patterson though running unopposed did not receive a vote.

The IDA Council has voted to accept the election results primarily because it was by large majorities and to avoid the problem of settling the issue of eligibility. It was thought that the Judiciary could take a look at it, but it would be hard to prove or to solve.

Consequently, I have felt that to reach a compromise that Anderson and Tihor should be allowed to sit on committees for the office they ran for in the election.

Whatever reasons the council voted to uphold the results without questioning the candidacies, it will be seen that the majority were for the winners.

However, even this temporary overlooking of constitutional violations cannot remove the need for better control and supervision in the future. What was okay in past elections are no longer acceptable.

Father Daniel Gorham, publisher of The Fighter's Home fame, has written other publishers a note to be published. The essence of his news is that he will be continuing the games. Those players whose games have not been continued by their GM will be picked up, but the players must

(cont. col. 1, pg. 6)

SOLITARY

CHAPTER FOUR

CONFINEMENT

Anonymous

Before the klaxon could give its warning for the third time, Torgen was already running back towards the auxiliary control room, located amidship on the starboard side. He silently thanked whatever gods there were that he was on the top level of the ship, the same level as the auxiliary control room. Had he been, say, on the fifth or sixth level, he would have wasted precious seconds waiting for the elevator or running up stairways.

A sudden surge of power in the engines knocked Torgen off balance. He fell, or rather skidded, to the floor, breaking the clipboard still clutched in his left hand. He felt a sudden surge of pain somewhere in his body but did not take the time to inspect himself for damage. Quickly scrambling to his feet, he dashed the last hundred meters to the auxiliary control room, slide the door open and darted in.

The surge of power a few seconds ago dictated where he should look first for the cause of the emergency. Yes, there it was. The automatic throttle control warning light was steadily blinking on and off. Tiny sparks jumping out from the toggle switch confirmed the warning light. Torgen slapped at the toggle switch, resetting it to manual. He tried to reset the throttles but they wouldn't budge. Torgen reached over and flipped the powerplant activate switch to the "off" position, but it immediately popped back on.

Torgen flipped the automatic throttle control switch up and down several times before trying the throttles again. This time they moved as he set them to idle. A quick check of the control panels confirmed that this was the only malfunction. The only known malfunctions, that is. For all he knew, the first malfunction of the auto throttle could have triggered others while also blowing out warning lights.

Looking at the speedometer for the first time, Torgen was alarmed to see it indicating 7.1 million mph. Maximum speed for this type of cargo ship was 7.5 million mph, and that was with no cargo! An old crate like this one, loaded to capacity with cargo as it was, would have started coming apart at the seams very quickly if that speed was held for 30 minutes or so.

The "snap" as the throttles popped back to the wide open position brought Torgen back to the situation at hand. The manual override switch had failed to hold and returned control back to the malfunctioning automatic control. Torgen snapped the override switch back to manual and again returned the throttles back to idle. The port and center engine throttles returned to idle easily, but the starboard engine throttles would only do so with a lot of effort on Torgen's part. After all ten throttles were in idle, Torgen made a snap decision and set the automatic throttle control on. Hopefully the engines would remain at idle until he could return to the main control room up front. Although the ship could be safely operated from here, the auxiliary control room did not have all the instruments that the main control room did.

Back in his command chair Torgen made a careful check of all the critical instruments, with special attention to the big Xarrax computer. He was much relieved to see that it was operating normally. The Xarrax was the central nervous system of the ship. If it failed, Torgen knew that there was no hope for him. He could not run the ship without it. Not even the life support systems.

Even though it could not handle the situation itself, the Xarrax could have continued to monitor all instruments during the emergency. So Torgen pushed the proper buttons and polled the computer for the status of the ship. The answers popping up on the view screen set Torgen's hair on end. The power surge lasted 2 minutes, 4 seconds, including 24 seconds of maximum power in the three starboard engines. At the peak of power, the ship's speed was recorded at 7.3.4 million mph. Present speed was now 4.631 million mph. The end result was that Torgen would be some 50,000 miles from Ganymede when he reached the intercept point. Beyond that was oblivion, for he would come crashing down on Jupiter's surface in a very short time.

Torgen had only one hope. Slow the ship down by some 3 million mph and get back on course. Another check with Xarrax informed him that the automatic electronic linkup with the psionic powerplants had burned out. He would have to resort to a manual operation. Not impossible, but extremely difficult for one man to handle.

(cont. col. 1, pg. 7)

EXPERIENCED GAME #3 (Boardman No., Doub?)

NATIONS IN EUROPE ARM THEMSELVES FOR WAR!

Welcome to the game, gentlemen. Below you will find a list of our players and their country assignments. Good luck. As usual, the first deadline is 6 weeks from now.

AUSTRIA: Howard Mahler, c/o Math Department, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ 08540
 ENGLAND: Harry Drews, P.O. Box 282, Kitchener, Ontario, Canada N2G 3X9
 FRANCE: Jim Lawson, 3508 Benton Dr., Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2L 1W8
 GERMANY: Greg Warden, 804 S. 48th St., Philadelphia, PA 19143
 ITALY: 2/Lt. Timothy Kutta, Box 487, "C" Co., TBS, MCB, Quantico, VA 22134
 RUSSIA: Lenard Lakofka, 644 West Briar Pl., Chicago, IL 60657
 TURKEY: John Hulland, R.R. #4, Guelph, Ontario, Canada N1H 6J1

Preference Lists:

Warden	G E T R F A I
Hulland	E T F I G A R
Mahler	R T A G I E F
Lakofka	R E T F A I G
Kutta	R E F T G A I
Lawson	F E R G T I A
Drews	E G A T I F R

Well, the coin flips decided the fate of Europe today. One player suffered by getting his 8th choice! It was a bad piece of luck, but that's the way the coin goes...Your first deadline is below.

SPRING 1901 Orders due Friday, March 21, 1975 at noon, E.D.S.T.

 1973Ddl, Summer & Fall 1023

KYMURU JOINS IN INVASION OF IRELAND!

Summer 1023: Munster R A Ern-Tyr

Fall 1023:

KYMURU(Gemignani): A Car-Wic, A Pow-Car
 LEINSTER(Fujihara): A Cas-Lei, A Mea S A Cas-Lei, A Tar-Kil, F SIS-Wic
 MUNSTER(Fanelli): F Wex H, F Tua H, F GaB S F Tua, A Tyr-Ros
 ORKNEY(Keller): F Min-NM1, F Iat S F Nat-Mid, F SlB-Sli, A Ros H, A Don S A Ern-Bre, A Ern-Bre, A Oma-Tyr, F Mou-Arm, F CaB-SIS, F Nat-Mid

SCOTLAND(Tonnesen): A Glo-Gwe, A Her-Bue, F Mon-MoB, A Gwy-Mon, A Wic-Bar, F NSG C Kymru A Car-Wic, A Cum-Dun, F Dub S Kym A Car-Wic, F Man S F NIS-Iri, F NIS-Iri, A Ang-Ros, F Law S Orkney A Ros-Tua/nso/, A Sut H, F Isl H

WINTER 1023 Orders due February 28, 1975, at noon.

Fall 1023 Supply Center Chart:

Kymru: ~~Brk~~, Brk (1) R1
 Leinster: Mea, Kil, Tar, ~~Man~~, Lei (4) SP
 Munster: Hom, ~~Lei~~, Wex, Tua (6) B2, was 2 short
 Orkney: Heb, Sky, Cai, Oma, Arm, Dur, Sli, Dow, Ros, Don (10) SP
 Scotland: Hom, Kin, Der, Che, Dub, ~~Tua~~, Pow, Car, Sta, Shr, Mon, Bue, Man (15) B1

Press--

Kymru: The arrest of the Great Stoned Stone on obscenity charges was reported in that advocate of free press and newsy gossip, The Chatter Choppers. A reporter of the same stated, "Stoney was drinking a few beers in the local pub, Mal's Place, when Mrs. Stone just rolled in. The whole problem really got under way because Old Lucy Brown was rolling about on his "lap". When the little woman rolled.

Mrs. Stoned Stone, known as Stoney to her friends, was quoted as saying, "There you are, you big stone pile. This is what you do at those secret meetings. Oh, our poor little stones! Esquire Stone Stone, better known as Horney, replied to the little woman and that was what triggered the arrest. This reporter has never heard such talk for it turned the air blue.

Stonehenge: A flat slab of stone broke off the Great Stone and flew through the air, frightening the local natives. The stone slab sailed through the air and right into the front window of The Chatter Chopper's building. It conked on the head of the Editor, killing him in the process, but his employees survived to read the message enscribed on the stone slab: "Lies will not be tolerated. Mortal men and women beware the anger of the Great Stone!"

Limerick: In hopes that relations would thaw, the new ruler waggled his jaw.

"This question I'll pose",
 He said, "I don't suppose.

I could interest you chaps in a draw?

Free Ireland: Irishmen of Ireland! Stand up and fight the enemy of our homes!

1970BJ, Summer & Fall 1914

ITALY MAKES GAINS IN FIGHT FOR SURVIVAL--WILL
GERMAN PROPOSAL END THE LONG WAR IN EUROPE???

Summer 1914: Italy R A Tyo-Pie, F Eng-Mid
Fall 1914:

AUSTRIA(Beyerlein): A Mun-Ruh, A Sil-Mun,
A Boh S A Sil-Mun, A Tyr-Tri, A Ser-Tri,
A Vie S A Ser-Tri, A Alb S A Ser-Tri,
A Gre H, A Bul H, A Mos H

ENGLAND(Keller): F Lon-Eng

GERMANY(Mahler): A Ber S A Kie, A Kie S A
Ber, F Nth-Hol, F Eng-Nth

ITALY(Phillips): F Adr S Aus A Ser-Tri, A
Ven S Aus A Alb-Tri/nso/, A Pie-Mar,
A Par-Bur, A Bur-Ruh, A Bel-Hol, F Mid-
Eng, F Nat S F Lvp, F Lvp S F Nwg-Cly,
F Nwg-Cly/r/(Bar, OTB)

RUSSIA(Kelly): A Fin-StP, F Nwy S F Edi-Nwg,
F Edi-Nwg, A Wal-Lvp, F Cly-Nat

VOTES FOR 5-WAY DRAW (Proposed by Germany)
and Orders for AUTUMN & WINTER 1914 are due
February 28, 1975 at noon, E.S.T. (Draw is
to take place after Winter 1914 but before
Spring 1915)

Fall 1914 Supply Center Chart:

AUSTRIA: Hom, Ser, Bul, Rum, War, Sev, Gre,
Mos, Mun (10) Bl, was 1 short

ENGLAND: Lon (1) SP

GERMANY: Kie, Hol, Den, Ber, ~~Bel~~ (4) SP, was
1 short

ITALY: Hom, Tun, Mar, Spa, Por, Bre, Par,
Lvp, Bel (11) Bl

RUSSIA: StP, Swe, Nwy, Ank, Con, Smy, Edi
(7) will be 2 short, no open home centers.

Press--

VIENNA: Let's see, Andy, if you were able to
out-guess me over keeping Trieste open this
Fall. The odds are that you did, but since
we don't have anything better to do on this
front for the present I will keep trying until
it opens and I can build the Great Austrian
Fleet. It may take awhile, but I have all
the time in the world on my side (yes, John,
this game will finish some day). Wat to give
up? ((What? With a build coming?))

1972BG, Autumn & Winter 1913

WINTER RE-ARMING PROCEEDS DESPITE HEAVY SNOW

Error: I overlooked printinf of Russian order
of Army Nwy-Hol.

Autumn 1913: Eng R F Lvp-Nat

Winter 1913:

AUSTRIA(Ball): NOR. A Bud built via use of
General Orders. Set is expired and new
set of G.O. will be required for further
protection against missed moves.

ENGLAND(Swies): D A Edi, F Lon

ITALY(Hrbek): B A Rom

RUSSIA(Fish): Will be 1 short

SPRING 1914 Orders are due Friday, February
28, 1975 At noon, E.S.T.

Winter 1913 Positions:

Austria: A Ser, A Rum, A Tri, A Vie, A Mun,
A Ruh, A Kie, A War, A Mos, A Sev, F Bul(ec),
A Bud (12); England: F Mid, F Nat (2); Italy:
A Gre, F Aeg, F Nth, A Bur, A Par, A Pic, F
Lvp, F Iri, A Tyr, A Ven, A Pie, F Bla, F Ank,
A Rom (14); Russia: F Bel, A Den, A StP,
A Liv, A Hol (5)

Press--

Rome, December 1913: King Ernesto il Ginzo
has called the commanders of all Italian
forces to Rome for a final strategy session.
The King has indicated that he believes that
the war in Europe will be over by Winter,
1915. When asked what it was that gave him
such confidence, the King pointed out the
fact that the Austrian enemy forces were
surrounded and forced to defend in more areas
than they were capable of protecting. He
noted that the main hold up in the progress
would now be that the Russian Allied forces
must bear the brunt of the battle and it
would take time to get them all into position.
The King offered one last chance to the
Austrian government to withdraw its forces
to within its own boundaries or face total
annihilation.

1972BW, Spring 1914

TRENCH WARFARE CONTINUES....

FRANCE(DePrisco): F Bar H, F Nwg S F Bar,
F Nth H, F Hel S F Nth, A Hol S Ita
A Kie, A Ruh S Ita A Kie, A Bel S A
Ruh, A Bur-Mun, A Pie S Ita A Ven, F
Eng-Mid

GERMANY(Davies): A Den-Swe, A Ber-Kie

ITALY(Swies): A Kie H, A Ven H, F Adr-Apu,
F Nap-Tyn, F Tun-Tyn

RUSSIA(Knudsen): A Liv-Den, A Sil S A Mun,
A Mun S Ger A Ber-Kie, A Tyr S A Mun,
A Vie S A Tyr, F Nwy S F Ska, F Ska S
F Nwy, F StP(nc) S F Nwy, F Bal C A
Liv-Den, F Sev H

(cont. next page)

TURKEY(Abbott): A Boh S Rus A Mun, A Tri S Rus
A Tyr, A Ser S A Tri, F Aeg H, F Gre H,
F Ion S F Alb-Adr, F Alb-Adr

FALL 1914 Orders due Friday, February 28, 1975
at noon, E.S.T.

1973BU, Spring 1918

RESISTANCE STRENGTHENS AGAINST THE ALLIES
WHILE ALLIES FUMBLE THE BALL IN THE MID-ATLANTIC

AUSTRIA(Tonnesen): A Vie S Ita A Tyr-Boh,
A Ser-Bud, A Alb-Ser, A Gre-Alb
ENGLAND(Greenwell): A Lon-Yor, A Edi-Nwy,
F Nwg C A Edi-Nwy, F Bar S A Edi-Nwy,
A Sev-Mos/r/(Ukr, OTB), A Por S F Mid-
Spa(sc), F Lvp-NAT, F Eng S Ger F Gas-
Mid/nso/, F Mid-Spa(sc), F Spa(sc)-Lyo
GERMANY(Barents): F Gas S Eng F Eng-Mid/nso/,
F Hol-Bel, A Mar-Pie, A Bur-Mun, A Mun-
Boh, A Kie-Ber, A Ber-Pru, A Boh-Gal
ITALY(Hulland): A Pie S A Tri-Tyo, A Tyo-Boh,
A Tri-Tyo, F Wes-Mid, F Naf S F Wes-Mid
RUSSIA(Hendry): A Rum-Sev, A Mos S A Rum-Sev,
A Ukr-War
TURKEY(Blank): F Bla-Arm, F Ion-Tyn, F Aeg-
Ion, A Bul-Rum

SUMMER & FALL 1918 Orders due Friday, Febru-
ary 28, 1975 at noon, E.S.T.

Press--

Fez(NATO): Following the collapse of the
Italian island of Sicily, the allied Swiss and
North Africans continued to pressure the
Italian mainland. The collapse of the Italian
Republic, under James I "Mad Man of Venice"
Messi, followed forthwith. In the settlement
that followed, Switzerland settled for all the
islands of the Western Mediterranean, inclu-
ding Sicily. The North Africans took charge
of the remainder, including the armed forces,
already in position. The North African Union
and Italy have now joined to form the Italficas
Sector. The new capital has located in the
centre--Tunis.

Sardinia, Switzerland: Naval headquarters on
this island reported sighting an English naval
force in the Gulf of Lyon. Preparations are
being made to bring in the 6th Fleet stationed
in Rome to meet this new threat.

Tunis(ISSTOR): After considerable debate, the
Italficas Parliament had decided to follow the
general policies of the previous government.
Iohannas I has been named as successor of the
the Italian Republic, while his brother Yohann-
us I is the new UMNA (United Nations of North

Africa) delegate.

Constantinople: So good to be Home--Cynthia.

1974HN, Fall 1901

DROOL.....THIS IS REALLY VERY INTERESTING!!

Error: Last issue I overlooked printing
Russian order of F StP-Bot.

Fall 1901:

AUSTRIA(Osmanson): A Vie-Gal, A Ser S F Alb-
Gre, F Alb-Gre
ENGLAND(Fujihara): F Nwg-Nwy, A Yor-Bel,
F Nth C A Yor-Bel
FRANCE(McKeon): F Mid-Iri, A Mar-Spa,
A Bur-Bel
GERMANY(Kelly): A Mun-Sil, A Kie-Hol,
F Den-Swe
ITALY(Tonnesen): A Tyr-Boh, A Apu-Tun, F
Ion C A Apu-Tun
RUSSIA(Blank): F Bot-Swe, F Rum H, A Sev S
F Rum, A War-Gal
TURKEY(Davies): A Smy-Arm, F Con-Aeg, A Bul
H

WINTER 1901 Orders due Friday, February 28,
1975 At noon, E.S.T.

Fall 1901 Supply Center Chart:

Austria: Hom, Ser, Gre (5) B2
England: Hom, Nwy (4) B1
France: Hom, Spa (4) B1
Germany: Hom, Hol, Den (5) B2
Italy: Hom, Tun (4) B1
Russia: Hom, Rum (5) B1
Turkey: Hom, Bul (4) B1

1974HY, Spring 1901

OLD HOSTILITIES AGAIN BREAK OUT IN EUROPE!

AUSTRIA(Callahan): A Vie-Tri, A Bud-Ser,
F Tri-Alb
ENGLAND(Harsney): A Lvp-Edi, F Edi-Nwg,
F Lon-Nth
FRANCE(McLendon): F Bre-Eng, A Par-Pic,
A Mar H
GERMANY(Fanelli): F Kie-Den, A Mun-Ruh,
A Ber-Kie
ITALY(Kendter): F Nap-Ion, A Rom-Nap, A
Ven-H
RUSSIA(Gallagher): F StP(sc)-Bot, A Mos-StP,
F Sev-Bla, A War-Gal
TURKEY(Cooper): A Con-Bul, A Smy-Con,
F Ank-Bla

FALL 1901 Orders Due February 28, 1975, noon.
(cont. next page)

Press--

To Turkey: Watch your northern borders or there won't be any borders for you to watch. You are also unrealistic in your suggestions.

Berlin: The government of Germany recognizes that the world situation has become so tense that the Big Seven are now on the brink of war. We are currently directing all of our efforts to an attempt to avert the looming conflict. Although it is likely that the controversies over spheres of influence in the minor countries will only be settled as a result of armed contest, Germany hopes that the powers will exercise restraint. Perhaps if we can avoid the violation of the national boundaries of the Big Seven the hostilities will not expand. We ask that the major powers join together in a Mutual Defense League. The aim of this League would be to intervene in situations in which one of the powers violates another's national boundaries. Please contact the Germany Embassy in your capital so that the details of this new League may be worked out. There is still time!

1975G (Formerly Newblood #8)

A Boardman Number has been given to this game by Douglas Beyerlein. It is, as you will note, 1975G. Deadline remains the same.

SPRING 1901 Orders are due Friday, February 28, 1975 at noon, E.S.T.

NEWS OF THE HOBBY, CONT.

write to him and inform him of their intentions to continue. His address is:

Father Daniel Gorham
Benedictine Monastery
Pecos, NM 87552

The brief feud with Mr. John Beshara is over with my acceptance of John's apologies for his letter printed in last issue of this gamezine.

He realized that I was indeed a member though I was a member for 1972 and not 1971 as I had stated. After last printing, I later took a look at my old checkbooks and the date of the check to Mr. Beshara for TDA membership was in February 1972.

He has sent several letters and even phoned up here when I was out. So, I believe him to be sincere. I have since written to him asking if further details could be had on TDA since many people do not know much (or anything) about it, including myself.

Part of my new series will cover what I feel is the stupidity of having two postal organizations existing and duplicating the same services--if not being hostile to each other.

The long awaited results on the first NORTH AMERICAN DIPLOMACY PLAYERS' SURVEY from Lew Pulsipher appeared in the latest issue of Diplomacy World. I was more than happy to note that my own Impassable (and the Diplomacy Review) contributed a significant portion. Over 50 combined from the two above mentioned with 30 from Impassable. I want to say that I'm proud of my readers for taking such an important interest.

I will attempt a very brief synopsis of Lew's report (it would probably run 8 pages in this zine if printed in full).

The most important aspect to remember in looking at Lew's results and analysis is to remember that the results were "skewed" in favor of the characteristics of the people who responded. As example, Impassable loomed larger as an influencing force than Graustark. Thus, my views and those of my readers who enjoy my zine rather than Boardman's Graustark would come out stronger. As a direct example, my two variants, 1721 and Scotice Scripti II did better than I thought--but because of the numbers of replies coming from Impassable readers!

So, all along the line, you have to consider age groups, publishers/players, political views, game views, etc!!!

What follows will be some of the more interesting results as I thought of them: Mean age: 23.94, Mean education: 14.79, Just under half of the 158 replies were college students (80). Gaming organization to which you were members of included: 84 IDA members, 20 MGA members, 10 TDA, 7 AHIKS, 6 AWA, 6 SICL, 3 USCF, and 3 NGC (a British organization). Only the first, third and last are related to dippy.

49 were GMS, 33 of them publishers (not running games by carbon copy). You can see the influence of the IDA members will be larger than it would be if the entire hobby responded. Whereas the 200 members of IDA represent a very small portion of the 2 thousands or so in the hobby, they represented one-half of the poll. So, you have to watch out for this sort of thing.

49% of the total replies said they played variants. That seems to be higher than it should to me. I would have thought the actual percentage to be around 25-30%.

Only 74 of the 158 replies said they
(cont. col. 1, pg. 8)

Torgen fed all the pertinent data to the computer and in seconds the view screen displayed the proper sequence of events that would get him back on course. He set the still idling engines to reverse thrust, reset the throttle control back to manual, and pushed the throttles forward. Nothing happened. Torgen repeated the process again, and still nothing happened, the engines failed to reverse.

Six years of service had given Torgen the ability to maintain his poise and self control during the crises. But now, with the failure of the engines to reverse brought forth the first real traces of panic. Beads of perspiration formed on his forehead, and he felt a clammy dampness in his armpits.

Once more Torgen let the computer do his thinking for him. It told him that the manual override switch was inoperative because the automatic throttle control had burned out and was frozen in the "on" position. It must have happened shortly after he had reset it in the auxiliary control room. Calling in the library portion of the computer, Torgen searched the tech manuals for a possible bypass to the defect control. An hour's search came up with only one possibility, that of actually removing the throttle control switch from the instrument panel and replacing it with a manual bypass switch. But this operation would take about 22 hours. By then it would be too late to get back on course. The tremendous gravitational pull of Jupiter would offset the limited reversing power of the psionic engines.

--to be continued.

DIPPYWORLD

Chapter Four: In came two Oranges

When the door to the privy meeting blew open, everyone turned towards to see what happened. Immediately, their curiosity and fears were settled by the entrance of two large organes rolling into the room upon the hard oak floor. One was marked "California Orange" and the other was labeled "Florida Organe". The two huge fruits stopped their rolling and then an amazing transformation took place! The California orange was the first to go through a weird display of colors and enveloping folds of some sort of electric fabric unknown to the council lords. But eventually there stood a large man in the usual Wizard's uniform of loose robe and pointed hat with a magic wand, no less. The other, an organe, went through many gyrations thought impossible for an organe before it broke open with a splatter releasing a fair maiden in an organe dress no less flamboyant in color than the orange robe of the man. The two immediately argued over the certain qualities of California oranges and Florida organes. The uproar from those two people was astonishing, and yet somehow melodious to the ear while at the same time wonderfully caucaphonous! But, they were also making a racket...

"Hey you two, shut up!" Yelled BirSauron from his throne of authority. "What business do you two have with us and what's the idea of barging into here uninvited?" BirSauron was a bit upset, but everyone else was laughing at the humorous setting. The comic

relief from the recent earnest and ominous mood of the meeting just ended was received by almost everyone in the room.

"Just because you think I have a thick skin when it comes to people's emotions doesn't mean that California oranges don't have feelings!" said the Wizard known as Rod the Ex-God. "Hah! What do you men know about feelings?" replied the Maiden, "Florida organes have much more feelings than your stupid California oranges." She extended her hand and from its open palm jumped out a dancing organe. It sang and danced to a strange melody. She was asked about it.

"That is some oragane you have, fair Maiden," asked Doug, "May I ask your named?"

"I am Margaret of Florida. That big dope over there is Rod of California. Tell him that my organes have more feelings than his oranges!"

"Well, I can't say that Margaret...."

"Call me Peggy for short."

"Huh? Yos, Peggy. I am a banana man myself and I wouldn't know too much about organes or oranges. By the way, what kind of dance was that?" Doug was halted in his questioning when BirSauron intervened.

"Okay, okay, what do we have here? A debate over some pickled bananas?"

"Oranges!" said Rod the Ex-God.

"Organes!" said Peggy the Maiden.

"Who cares? Everybody is trying to interrupte me. Suit yourself people, I'm leaving to get ready for the march tomorrow. Beyerlein, Boyer and you Mahler--you all better be ready." BirSauron was fuming and

(cont. next page)

DIPPYWORLD CONT.

he walked out of the room in a huff, almost knocking down the oragane out of the Maiden's hand.

"Well, I guess that's that!" sighed Doug. "We better get ready like he said."

"Can't tell how much sleep we'll miss during the trip," replied Mahler.

I said in agreement something about getting the equipment together and after that we talked about the two amusing people who had such fanciful powers over oranges and oraganes. They asked if they could help us against the Treeticks. Doug and Howard and I told them that BirSauron probably wouldn't like it, but we all knew he would not care if no one got in his way.

"Aw, that's no problem," said Rod loudly in an assuring manner, "I'd just reduce myself to a normal ordinary California orange and you could carry me in a sack--just don't eat me, heh, heh!"

The Maiden Peggy piped up, "Yes, if you can squeeze yourself that small! All of California would be flooded at the least....I will make myself a bright oragane, but no funny stuff from you!" The Maiden stared fiercely at Rod.

Finally, we three agreed to allow the two to accompany us on the trip. Edi the Wizard wouldn't have to know until it was too late. For some reason I felt uneasy, but about what I couldn't say. Oh well, a lot of work was facing all of us tomorrow--we needed to sleep!

to be continued--

HOBBY NEWS, CONTINUED

have completed a standard postal game, an average of 8.88 each, but three people said they completed 156, 60 and 50 games! ((Would that be Birsan, Beyerlein and Von Metzke?)) So you can see the average is skewed!

138 knew what the Calhamer Awards were, 149 knew what IDA was, 116 knew who the Boardman Custodian is one only 63 know who the Miller Number Custodian is.

The order of finish in a game as preferred by the players came out as: Win, 2-way draw, 3-way, 2nd place, 4-way draw, 5-way, 3rd place, 6-way draw, 4th, 7th, 5th, 6th. As you will note, 7th got some favor!

Press releases contribute to my enjoyment got a very good support. 95 agreed strongly, 54 somewhat, 2 disagreed somewhat and only 3 strongly. So, that means people

will read your press releases even if they, themselves, won't write such on a regular basis! The overwhelming support is surprising to me, however.

On the other hand, demonstration games didn't seem to contribute to enjoyment (unless you were one of the players). Only 46 agreed strongly, 55 somewhat, 31 disagreed somewhat, and 19 strongly.

The top favorite alliances turned out to be in order: R-T, E-F, E-G, F-G, A-R, A-I, A-T, and E-R. There were double that, but I'm only giving the top.

Countries were ranked by the respondents to reflect their opinion of the "strength" of the 7 powers; They came out in this order: England, Russia, Turkey, Germany, Austria (oops, make France second) and then Italy.

Favorite variants proved the power of numbers as my variant, 1721 came in third!! Youngstown beat all competition quite easily, however, with a total of 49 mentions. In second came Anarchy with 13 mentions. 1721 had only 10 mentions. In order after 1721 came: Middle Earth V 8, Black Hole 7, Middle Earth IV 6, 1600 5. Oops, I overlooked Lord of the Rings with 11...but the vote was broken down into experienced and non-experienced players in which case 1721 did come in third with 6 experienced players preferring 1721 to Lord of the Rings with only 4, but 7 inexperienced liking it. 32 variants were listed altogether. Scotice Scripti II got 4 mentions. I think that if my two variants got more exposure that they would finish higher in these sort of polls! Both are conservative variants, the ones players prefer and both maps are at least printed well with my good mimeo doing the work. If you care to buy a copy, you can get map and rules to either one for only a quarter!

An interesting question was asked in what people felt should be the limit GMs should carry in number of games: limit of 6--49, limit of 10--28, limit of 20--27, no limit, depends--47. Lew suggests an organization of publishers be set up to limit the number of games and to control quality of publishing. The only way for this to work is to invite only those GMs/Publishers who would meet the requirements. So, through a sort of elitism, other pubbers will be left out and hopefully a desire to join would help enforce the group's self-set goals.

I cannot over-urge you to reply to the second NADPP! Fill it out and mail today!

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR Allies and Enemies

What follows will be the biographies written by the new players in our new games. They were written in response to our request for player history on the entry form for the games. So, you didn't think we'd print all this blackmail information? Well, you're wrong!! First games comes first, and so we start with the players of 1974HN:

David Fujihara: I am a 26 year old college graduate with a master's degree in history. I am a trained educator and I am currently employed as an educational engineer working with disadvantaged youngsters. I like war games and games of strategy. I have a keen interest in simulations. I like to play dippy because of the challenge, and I like to get to know people.

David Davies: I am 25 going on middle age, earning my living railroading on the Santa Fe. I've had a smattering of higher education at about 5 different colleges and universities (3 years--mostly history and philosophy). Interested practically in everything that moves, and some things that don't. Which is why I have to cut this short and write John B. a check for 3 hours pay.

Mark James Tonnesen: I, Mark Tonnesen, am a 26 year old member of the human race, male and slightly crazy. Proof of that last statement is the fact I play Dippy. I have on perfectly normal wife (except for the fact she married me) and two beautiful daughters (my wife's influence). I am an escapee with papers to prove it from Virginia Commonwealth University. I am a Dippy player of four years who has never won a Dippy game, but has come in second in all new games I started and were finished. (So I must be an excellent ally, right!)

Walter M. Blank: I am 23 years old employed as a Math teacher at Brookwood H.S., Ontario, Wisconsin. I have been playing diplomacy for 2-3 years finishing one game as a 4-way draw with Turkey. I am presently playing in 10 games and consider myself as fair but learning! Hobbies include chess and board gaming in general.

GAME 1974HY;

Steve McLendon: I am 28 years old and I am an electrical engineer for NASA. Currently in the middle of top secret negotiations with the Russians on the joint Apollo/Soyu 3 flight next summer, but I can't convince the Russians that I have information they need to buy. It is pure coincidence that I got into this postal hobby, because it was only pure chance that I bought the darn game. Another hobby of mine is electronics, so if you ever have any problems with your radio or TV, I suggest you take it to your nearest radio/TV repair shop.

Lee A. Kendter: Age 34, married, Wife Sandra, 2 children. Professional musician, guitar teacher til 1966. Now manager of largest music store chain in this area. Have played chess since 1955. Started playing AH type wargames in 1961. Have over 50 titles in my collection. Have spent last year designing a simulation of the first battle of Bull Run. Hope to be able to market it in the near future. Also have a Chickamauga game in the works (Civil War is my favorite period).

Jim Harsney: I was kidnapped by a band of roving Polish Gypsies at the tender age of 20. Forced to perform such degrading acts as playing Austria-Hungary to Edi Birsan's Turkey, I was quickly perverted!

I would like to go on, but the rest is so awful that I've blocked it out of my memory, although, I do seem to remember a very sharp instrument, two men (?) were fighting over it. One fellow was very large and very forceful. His name? Smith? No, too obvious! Smyth! John Smyth! Yes, it rhymes with knife! Now it all comds back! He wrestled the knife away from, from....who? Wobble? No, Wroble! I tried to intervene but was spun around by Smith....no Smyth. As I was falling I felt a very sharp pain in my spine. It seems to twist and twist and twist. As I lay on my side in extreme pain, John said that the stab was not intentional. I could not help watching him rub his hands together. What could this mean? He seemed sincere! Wroble mumbled something about this being the last game of the night. What did that have to do with Smyth rubbing his hands? Who knows? Even more important, who cares? I know I don't as I have given up FTF Diplomacy for PBM. It takes a little longer, but there are less accidents!!!

(cont. on page 10)

GETTING TO KNOW THEM, CONT.

STAB! DROOL.... DO I KNOW YOU??

Kevin Gallagher: Age--27; College: BS in Math, Manhattan College. MS in Math, Ohio State U.; working on PH.D at OSV (Taught high school for 5 years prior to work on Masters Degree).

Sub to S&T, Moves, Conflict, Panzerfaust. In Diplomacy, sub to Domination, ADAG, The Pouch, Impassable, and Diplomacy World. Member of IDA.

Member of AHIKS, own quite a few SPI and AH games. Haven't played any dippy variants yet. Been playing regular dippy for about a year now. No FTF games yet.

Bob Fanelli: I am 25 years old. I am in my last undergraduate year at Temple U. in filthy Philadelphia. My major: Anthropology, with special emphasis on communications. Interests in fishing, folklore, fotography, film-making, fighting battles in miniatures and simulations games, lurking about cemeteries on foggy evenings, and, of course, science fiction. Just started a wargamers club at Temple, any interested locals, please contact.me. I am 4 years married, pretty boring, beer drinking, born on same day as Napoleon (Aug. 15), so beware (I guess).

James Cooper: I'm all of 14 years old, being in the 9th grade at Benjamin Franklin Junior High School. It is in that school that the graduating class of '78 is instructed in the science of paper airplanes (you can all expect a long-range attack of high level negotiations --grroooooaaannnnnn) and the subtle art of blackboard graffiti.

My prime hobby, no, not obsession, hobby is tropical fish, so you may also expect a fish to drop in some time. The sailing code will be as follows: Angel Fish--"How about a deal?", Red-Tailed Shark--"Damn it, I have the Black Sea", Butterfly Fish--"Come now, surely a knife in his back doesn't hurt your stomach?", Jack Dempsey--"Don't try it", Piranha--"So long", Guppy--"Who, me?"

How'd I get obsessed with this stupid game? Well, a friend of of a friend of the family (how unlucky can you get?) got me interested. PBM-wise, a friend that I introduced to the game did the same thing to me for the postal hobby, and for those out there with an anniversary issue of The POUCH, there's a phrase or two by Rod Walker that fit the situation like a glove. Degree of stupidity? I checked the second blank (modified a tiny bit) on that Entry form ol' man Boyer sent us. ((No, I was never on Star Trek--you're the second to ask that!))

Wayne Callahan: I am 24 years old unless someone told me the wrong date. Graduated from high school in 1969. Went to college for $2\frac{1}{2}$ years and flunked out. Like hunting and fishing and golf. I almost got married to one of those girls who only want your money, but I didn't. Have had 9 jobs since leaving high school. I am now working in a cheese factory.

Next issue we'll continue these revealing stories of the players. Maybe I'll print my own?

IMPASSABLE #46
117 Garland Drive
Carlisle, PA 17013

Your sub is just ended____
Can you afford to trade?____
Are you a freak?____
All games are reported inside!
Deadline is February 28, 1975.

Rod Walker
4069 Jackdaw St.
San Diego, CA 92103

T



FIRST CLASS MAIL

FIRST CLASS MAIL